

by spontaneous generation, we are taught by natural science, in one of its most authoritative lessons. Not as we know from another of its lessons, by the transmutation of old species into new ones. Not by any combination that we have ever observed of all the known powers and principles in creation—and thus are we enabled to refer those things in nature which of all others have most exquisite and manifold collocations—the most certainly to a definite origin, the most nearly to the finger of a Creator.*

5. The hypothesis, under all its aspects, is rendered incredible and absurd by the recent creation of man. Here the notion of gradation utterly fails. Between other races and the human race we see no approximation, but the widest and most unrelieved interval presented to us in nature. It is impossible to make out any sliding scale by which the interval might have been filled up with intermediate beings; and the monuments of former life unite with the present inhabitants of the earth in demonstrating that there neither are nor have been any such connecting orders. The ape has some external

* Chalmers' Nat. Theol., b. ii., ch. 3.